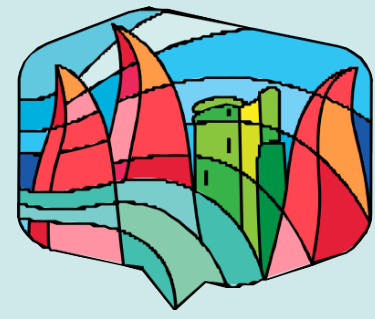


WORLD
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THIRTEENTH SESSION

BAKU, AZERBAIJAN | 17-22 MAY 2026



 **TU Delft**
Delft
University of
Technology

Welcome to the TU Delft

Centre for the Just City



Caroline Newton, Roberto Rocco, Hugo Lopez

Chair of Spatial Planning and Strategy, Architecture and the Built Environment, TU Delft





<https://just-city.org>

Why the Centre exists

The polycrisis

(On top of ...)

war and genocide

ecological collapse

democratic backsliding

obscene inequality

A crisis of imagination
The closing of the democratic horizon by neoliberalism and austerity.

A crisis of hope
The creeping sense that nothing will work, that democracy is corrupt.

A crisis of recognition
The denial of dignity, visibility, and belonging.

When access to housing, infrastructure, mobility, safety, and opportunity becomes **profoundly unequal**, entire communities experience the future as blocked or inaccessible.

These crises are also

When certain people and communities are **displaced, segregated, invisibilised, or excluded from decision making**, space itself becomes a mechanism that denies dignity, belonging, and political presence.

SPATIAL

When cities are shaped by **segregation, privatisation, enclosure, and exclusion**, people lose the capacity to **imagine alternative urban futures** and democratic ways of living together.

Spatial Planning is an activity that helps distribute opportunities, risks, resources, visibility, and belonging across space.

It can't be neutral

**It shapes who belongs,
who decides, who is
protected, and who is
made invisible in the city**

**The spatial ontology of all
being demands a specific
normative horizon**

Spatial Justice

A framework for understanding how inequality, exclusion, and power become embedded in space.

Spatial Justice is not a

‘moral preference’,

but an active _and activist_ analytical

framework for design and policy

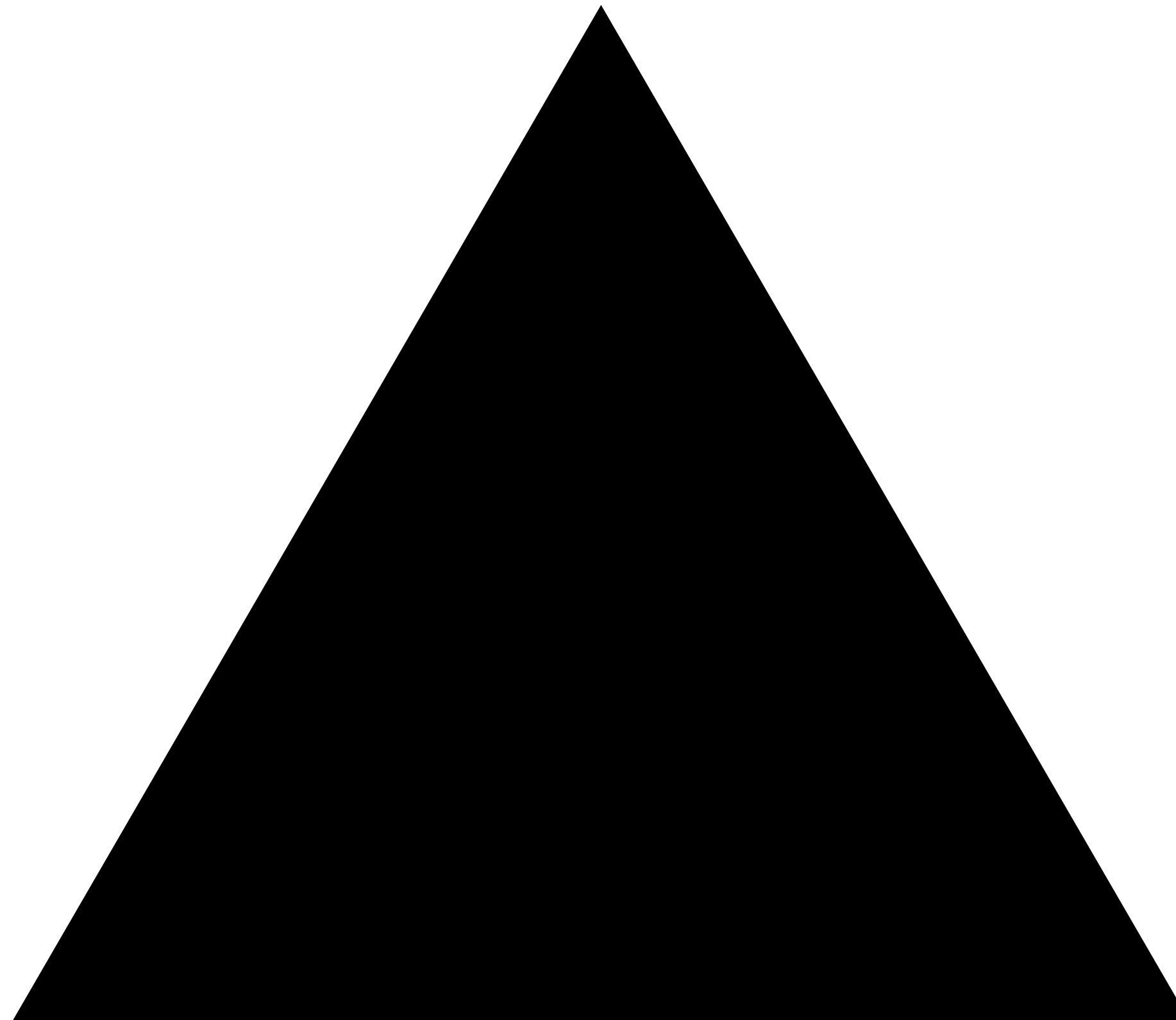
Three mutually constitutive dimensions

distributive

Who gets what? **Who bears
the costs?**

procedural

Who has a seat
at the table? But also...
who owns the table?



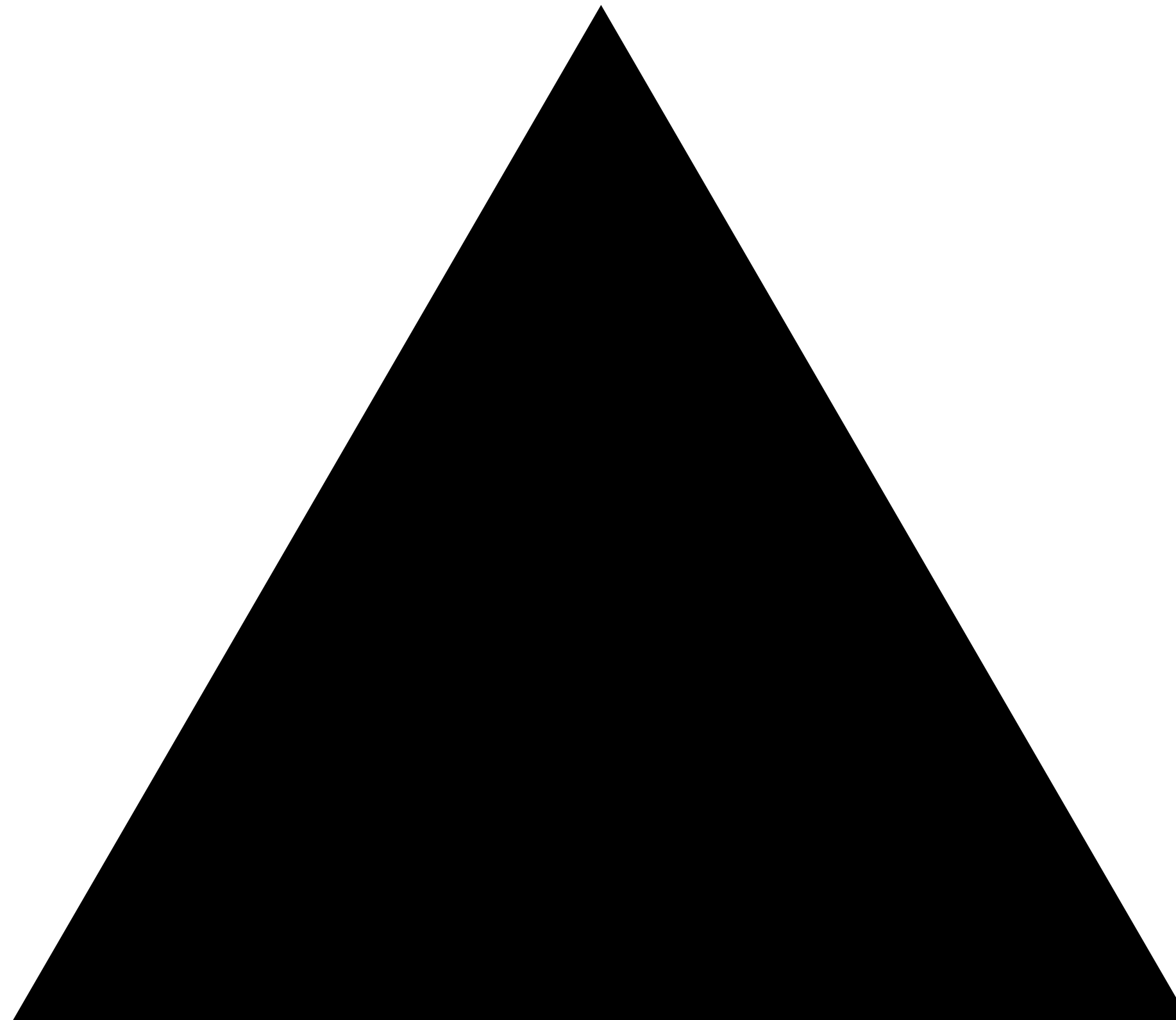
recognitional

Whose stories and
trajectories get to be
heard? **Who is erased?**

Mutually constitutive dimensions because . . .

Distribution without recognition or procedure:

Clientelism without emancipation



Procedure without
distribution:

Tokenism/ Manipulation

Recognition without
distribution:

**Symbolic Performance/
Empty rhetoric**

SJ helps us

- * analyse urban inequality**
- * evaluate planning and design decisions**
- * imagine and design fairer futures**

What the centre does

- ✳ Research and policy development
- ✳ International workshops and a summer school for 100 students every July
- ✳ The Manifesto for the Just City workshop and book series
- ✳ Open educational resources
- ✳ Global academic and civic networks
- ✳ Advisory work with governments and civil society



Summer School Planning and Design for the Just City: 12 editions

TU Delft Centre for the Just City

Manifesto for the Just City



<https://just-city.org/portfolio/manifesto-for-the-just-city/>
Online workshop October 2024



and Caroline Newton

<https://just-city.org/portfolio/manifesto-for-the-just-city/>

PhD and MSc theses

Selected theses

Adam Paul Susaneck — Segregation by Design
Infrastructure as segregation strategy

Nima Tabrizi — Revitalising Spoorzone Weert
spatial justice in rail-zone regeneration

Marh Echtai — The Right to the Rural
just & resilient rural futures

Seyong Kim—Addressing Vacant Houses in Busan
Spatial Justice & Historical Institutional approaches

Hugo Lopez — Atlantic Forest as an Urban Project
Foregrounding alternative territorialities

Marieke Russchen — Spaces for Democracy (Cum Laude)
Winner Leonie Janssen-Jansen Prize 2025

Wiebke Stadtlander — Carescapes (Cum Laude)
Archiprix pre-selection 2025

Marh Echtai — The Impossible Revolution
KHMW J.C. Baak Prijs 2nd prize

Research Themes in PhD Supervision

Gender & Public Space

Women's spatial strategies, loitering, safety work, and the gendered right to the city

Conflict, Liberation & Justice

Spatial equity in post-conflict contexts: Syria, Sri Lanka, Lebanon, Palestine

Rural & Peri-Urban Transitions

Just futures for rural communities; RURALITIC; Railway regeneration

Care, Housing & Liveability

Carescapes; young fluidly housed adults; post-COVID housing; blue space health

Queer & Intersectional Urbanism

Queering spatial planning; disrupting heteronormative urban order; Vienna gender mainstreaming

Democratic Design & Participation

Co-creative processes; citizen literacy; community spaces as political infrastructure

ARO Workbook 5: A Caring Living Environment

Commissioned by the Dutch Ministries of OCW & VRO as part of a series of five tool-books on design research. Caroline Newton co-leads Werkboek 5 with design studio Falsework on the theme of the caring living environment.

Essay

Toward Caring Living Environments

A conceptual essay theorising the caring living environment through spatial justice, feminist urbanism, and everyday practices of care. Introduces a three-dimensional triangle (distributive/ procedural/ recognitional) and a four-axis compass as analytical tools for practice.

Cases

Design Research Cases

Selection and analysis of design research projects (2021–2025) demonstrating how spatial design and planning can embed care as a structuring principle.

Method

Toolbook as Tool for Practice

Part of a broader trajectory bringing together design studios, ministries, an expert panel, and practitioners across three national sessions. The werkboek is a replicable instrument for spatial practitioners.

- Home
- Search
- Your Library
- Create Playlist
- Liked Songs
- Your Episodes

- MET Media
- MPB Mix
- wednesday dance scene
- Wednesday Official Playlist
- This Is Caetano Veloso
- How Democracy Died
- tipo comer lamen com koolh...
- TU Delft Summer School so...
- Surface Pressure
- Install App



PODCAST

Duty of Care Podcast

TU Delft Centre for the Just City



FOLLOWING

Up next

"Race & Space: Issues of race and class in urban development" with Suraj Yengde

Today we have with us Suraj Yengde speaking to us from the United States. Suraj is a Shorenstein Centre inaugural post-doctoral fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School of Public Policy. He's the author of Caste Matter...



Oct 2022 · 27 min 48 sec

All Episodes

About

In 2019, The European Union launched the "European Green Deal", aiming to make the EU carbon neutral by 2050. We all know we need to transition to a carbon neutral economy, but will it be fair? Past transitions have produced winners and losers, with the most vulnerable groups often facing unemployment and dire consequences for social cohesion.

[see more](#)



Union for the Mediterranean
Union pour la Méditerranée
الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط

THE UfM STRATEGIC URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN 2040



DAY OF THE
MEDITERRANEAN

NOVEMBER 28

[HTTPS://UFMSECRETARIAT.ORG//WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2021/09/
UFM_STRATEGIC_URBAN_DEVELOPMENT_ACTION_PLAN_2040.PDF](https://ufmsecretariat.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/UfM_STRATEGIC_URBAN_DEVELOPMENT_ACTION_PLAN_2040.PDF)



For sustainable, resilient, and inclusive cities and
communities in the Mediterranean



The UfM Secretariat
is co-funded by the
EUROPEAN UNION

Screenshot

Spatial Justice Benchmarking Tool




The SJ Benchmarking Tool


About:
The Spatial Justice Benchmarking Tool (SJBT) is a qualitative evaluation tool designed to measure the application of justice considerations in urban governance and planning of a city or region, assisting evaluation and reflection. It defines "levels of justice", from "Low" to "Embedded", by assigning a score of the attainment of what is being assessed against the highlighted components of the Spatial Justice Conceptual Model.


The tool serves to spark discussion and reflection based on Spatial Justice considerations. Using this lens, it is possible to pay greater attention to aspects that redistribute benefits and burdens, engage people and be more responsive in policy and decision-making processes, and recognise the needs and aspirations of disadvantaged individuals, groups, and communities.

- How to use this tool:**
- 1) Start by clarifying what you're assessing. Review the vision statement provided above to keep it in mind throughout the process.
 - 2) Go through each column on the right. Each column represents a component of the Spatial Justice Conceptual Model (SJCM).
 - 3) Discuss how well the vision statement aligns with each component and assign it a rating from "Low" to "Embedded".
 - 4) Use post-its to write down any ideas or recommendations discussed by the group. Place these directly onto the relevant component for easy reference.

Contact and more information:
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Roberto Rocco (r.c.rocco@tudelft.nl)
Juliana Gonçalves (j.a.goncalves@tudelft.nl)

 Download the online version of the Spatial Justice Benchmarking Tool

 Download the Spatial Justice Handbook

 Download the Spatial Justice Conceptual Model

	DISTRIBUTIVE DIMENSION			PROCEDURAL DIMENSION			RECOGNITION DIMENSION		
EMBEDDED	Benefits and burdens allocated fairly citywide with clear specification of resources (e.g. public goods, basic services, economic opportunities, green spaces, etc.).	Considerations about access to benefits and burdens across the city. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered. Evidence of what, how, and who is being considered.	Considerations for the appropriation of benefits and burdens across the city. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered. Evidence in specification of what, how, and who is being considered.	There are considerations on how people are engaged in processes. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered. This is evidenced in the specification of what/where, how, and who is being considered.	There are considerations on how internal processes adapt towards justice. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered. This is evidenced in the specification of what/where, how, and who is being considered.	There are considerations for aspects of Spatial Justice in the government's actions. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered. This is evidenced in the specification of what/where, how, and who is being considered.	There are considerations for validating disadvantaged individuals and groups in laws and regulations. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered. This is evidenced in the specification of who, what/where, and how is being considered.	There are considerations to recognise practices of marginalised or non-hegemonic collectives and groups. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered, evidenced in the specification of who, what/where, and how is being considered.	There are considerations for aspirations, values, or livelihood of marginalised or non-hegemonic communities or diverse lifestyles. All dimensions of Spatial Justice are considered, evidenced in the specification of who, what/where, and how is being considered.
GROWING	Mentions fair allocation of benefits and burdens and specifies some resources.	Considerations about access to benefits and burdens across the city. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered. Evidence in specifications of what, how and who is made accessible.	Considerations about the appropriation of benefits and burdens across the city. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered. Evidenced in specifications of what/how is open.	There are considerations on how people are engaged in processes. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered. This is evidenced in specifications of how, and who or what/where is being considered.	There are considerations on how internal processes adapt towards justice. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered. This is evidenced in specifications of how and who or what/where is being considered.	There are considerations for aspects of Spatial Justice in the government's actions. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered. This is evidenced in the specifications of what/where, and who or how is being considered.	There are considerations for validating disadvantaged individuals and groups in laws and regulations. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered, evidenced in the specifications of who, and what/where or how is being considered.	There are considerations to recognise practices of marginalised or non-hegemonic collectives and groups. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered, evidenced in the specifications of who, and what/where or how is being considered.	There are considerations for aspirations, values, or livelihood of marginalised or non-hegemonic communities or diverse lifestyles. More than one dimension of Spatial Justice is considered, evidenced in the specifications of who, and what/where or how is being considered.
BASIC	Acknowledges fair allocation of benefits and burdens but does not specify resources.	There are considerations about the access to benefits and burdens across the city. Specifies where or what service or material is being addressed.	Considerations about the appropriation of benefits and burdens across the city. Specification of where or what material and/or service is open to change.	There are considerations about how people are engaged in processes (policies, regulations, standards, etc.). It specifies how or who is being engaged.	There are considerations on how internal processes adapt towards justice. It specifies how it is being addressed.	There are considerations for aspects of Spatial Justice in the government's actions. It specifies what, where, how or who is being addressed.	There are considerations for validating disadvantaged individuals and groups in laws and regulations. It specifies who is being validated.	There are considerations to recognise practices of marginalised or non-hegemonic collectives and groups. It specifies who is being recognised.	There are considerations for aspirations, values, or livelihood of marginalised or non-hegemonic communities or diverse lifestyles. It specifies who is being addressed.
STARTING	There is a general concern about the allocation of benefits and burdens across the city.	There is a general concern about access to benefits and burdens across the city.	General concern about the appropriation of benefits and burdens across the city, with initial efforts to acknowledge people's agency in usage and programming.	There is a general concern about how people are engaged in processes (policy, planning, projects, etc.).	There is general concern about how internal processes (procedures, values, standards, etc.) adapt to promote justice inside institutions.	There is a general concern for aspects of Spatial Justice in the government's actions.	There is a general concern for validating of disadvantaged individuals and groups in laws and regulations. There is an acknowledgment of disparities.	There is a general concern to recognise practices of marginalised or non-hegemonic collectives and groups.	There is a general concern for aspirations, values, or livelihood of marginalised or non-hegemonic communities or diverse lifestyles. There is an acknowledgment of their existence and relevance.
LOW	There is no consideration for how benefits and burdens are distributed across the city.	There is no consideration of the access to benefits and burdens across the city.	There is no consideration of the appropriation and agency of benefits and burdens across the city.	There is no consideration for how people are engaged in processes (policy, planning, projects, etc.).	There is no consideration for how internal processes (procedures, values, standards, etc) adapt towards justice inside institutions.	There is no consideration for aspects of Spatial Justice in the government's actions.	There is no consideration for validating disadvantaged individuals and groups in laws and regulations.	There is no consideration to recognise practices of marginalised or non-hegemonic collectives and groups.	There is no consideration for aspirations, values, or livelihood of marginalised or non-hegemonic communities or diverse lifestyles.
	COMPONENT 1	COMPONENT 2	COMPONENT 3	COMPONENT 1	COMPONENT 2	COMPONENT 3	COMPONENT 1	COMPONENT 2	COMPONENT 3
	FAIR ALLOCATION	IMPROVE ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITIES	EMPOWER PEOPLE TO ADAPT AND ADOPT	DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT	FOSTER INTERNAL ADAPTIVENESS	INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIVENESS	LEGAL EMPOWERMENT	SUPPORT FOR COLLECTIVE CARE PRACTICES	RECOGNISE AND FOSTER THE PLURIVERSE
	This component focuses on ensuring that resources are fairly distributed to address inequality. It concerns the material or service provision of public goods, basic services, cultural goods, economic opportunities, and healthy environments.	This component highlights efforts to enhance people's ability to reach and benefit from key opportunities. It concerns affordability, availability, connectivity, etc.	This component emphasises empowering individuals and groups to actively shape and utilise available resources. It concerns the design, programming, and openness to people's agency.	This component focuses on the ongoing involvement of citizens in decision-making processes. The easeness of people to approach the institution.	This component focuses on the institution's internal flexibility and adaptability to evolving circumstances, incorporating feedback, and adjusting policies, practices, and programs to better reflect justice considerations.	This component focuses on how the institution address external stakeholders. It concerns ensuring that processes are fair, transparent, and sustainable, in views to uphold justice and that it legitimatises social sustainability.	This component emphasises the importance of legal frameworks in recognising the intrinsic value and dignity of individuals and groups as moral agents.	This component highlights actions to sustain and uplift collective efforts and everyday practices in disadvantaged communities, such as solidarity networks and the management of communal resources.	This component calls for a profound transformation of values to enable novel socioeconomic and institutional arrangements, advocating for considering the values, qualities, and unique socio-spatial dynamics of non-hegemonic cultures and communities.

Spatial Justice Policy Evaluation



UP2030 URBAN PLANNING & DESIGN READY FOR 2030

**SPATIAL
JUSTICE
EVALUATION**

BELFAST

LOPEZ, GONÇALVES, ROCCO & DABROWSKI

UP2030




UP2030 URBAN PLANNING & DESIGN READY FOR 2030

**SPATIAL
JUSTICE
EVALUATION**

BUDAPEST

LOPEZ, GONÇALVES, ROCCO & DABROWSKI

UP2030




UP2030 URBAN PLANNING & DESIGN READY FOR 2030

**SPATIAL
JUSTICE
EVALUATION**

GRANOLLERS

LOPEZ, GONÇALVES, ROCCO & DABROWSKI

UP2030




UP2030 URBAN PLANNING & DESIGN READY FOR 2030

**SPATIAL
JUSTICE
EVALUATION**

ISTANBUL

LOPEZ, GONÇALVES, ROCCO & DABROWSKI

UP2030




UP2030 URBAN PLANNING & DESIGN READY FOR 2030

**SPATIAL
JUSTICE
EVALUATION**

LISBON

LOPEZ, GONÇALVES, ROCCO & DABROWSKI

UP2030




UP2030 URBAN PLANNING & DESIGN READY FOR 2030

**SPATIAL
JUSTICE
EVALUATION**

MILAN

LOPEZ, GONÇALVES, ROCCO & DABROWSKI

UP2030




UP2030 URBAN PLANNING & DESIGN READY FOR 2030

**SPATIAL
JUSTICE
EVALUATION**

MUENSTER

LOPEZ, GONÇALVES, ROCCO & DABROWSKI

UP2030



UP2030 URBAN PLANNING & DESIGN READY FOR 2030

**SPATIAL
JUSTICE
EVALUATION**

RIO DE JANEIRO

LOPEZ, GONÇALVES, ROCCO & DABROWSKI

UP2030




UP2030 URBAN PLANNING & DESIGN READY FOR 2030

**SPATIAL
JUSTICE
EVALUATION**

ROTTERDAM

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**SPATIAL
JUSTICE
EVALUATION**

THESSALONIKI

LOPEZ, GONÇALVES, ROCCO & DABROWSKI

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UP2030 URBAN PLANNING & DESIGN READY FOR 2030


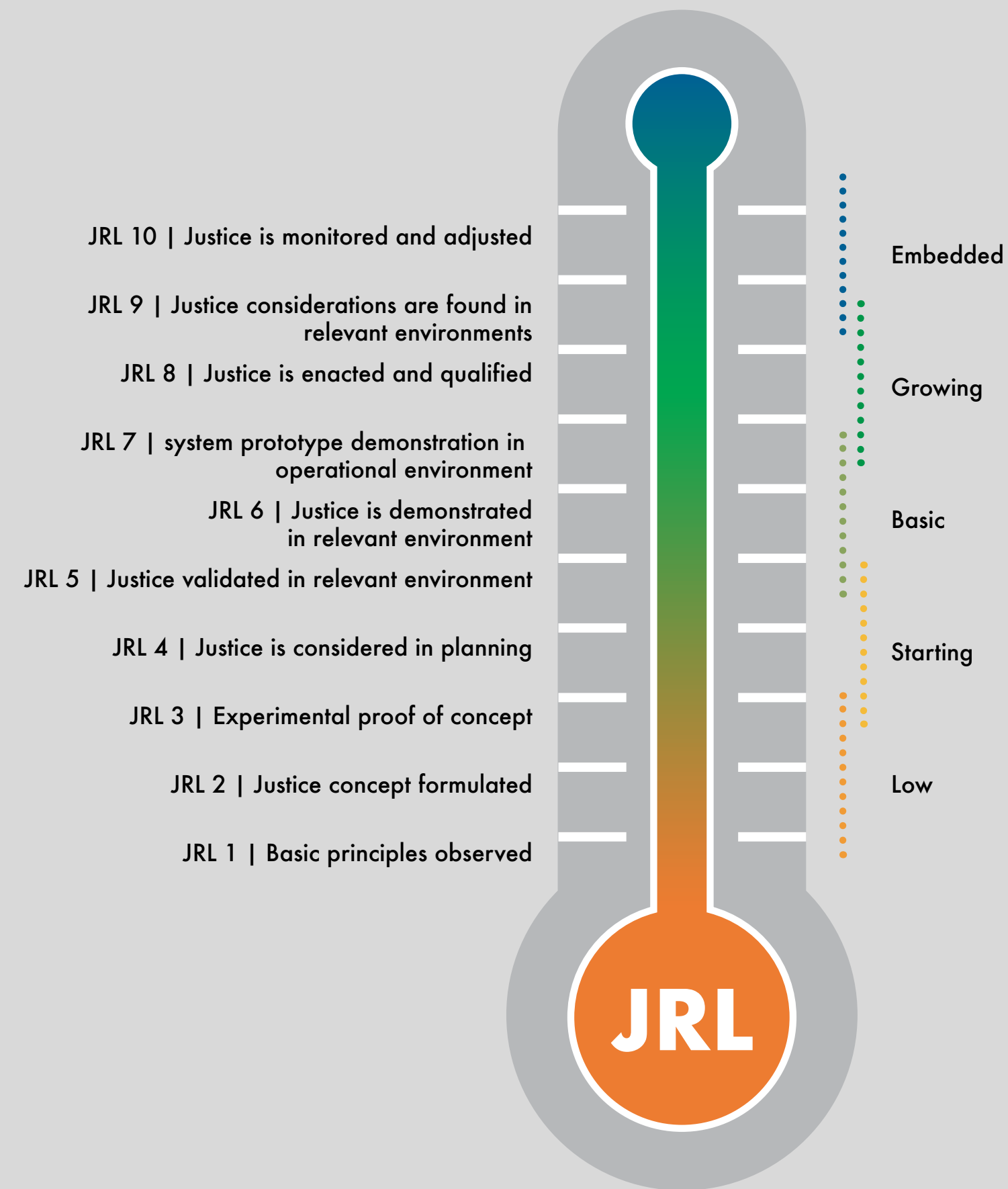
**SPATIAL
JUSTICE
EVALUATION**

ZAGREB

LOPEZ, GONÇALVES, ROCCO & DABROWSKI

UP2030

Justice Readiness Level



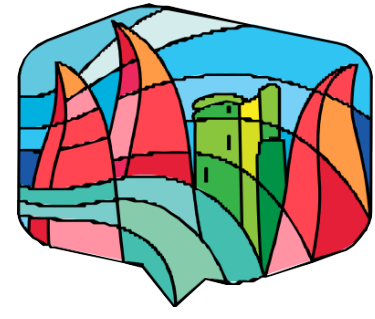
UP2030 URBAN PLANNING & DESIGN READY FOR 2030

JUSTICE READINESS LEVEL

LOPEZ, GONÇALVES & ROCCO

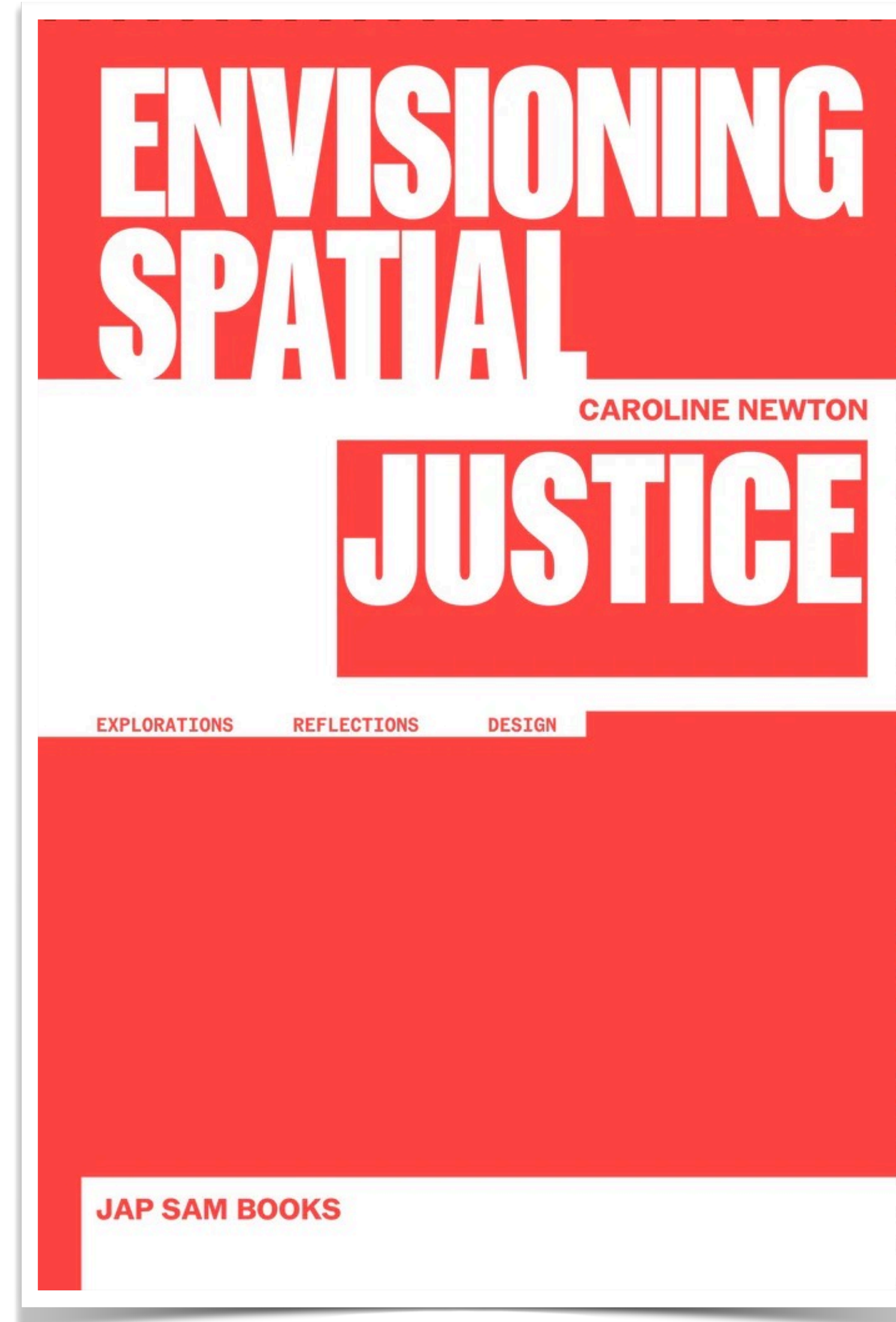
UP2030

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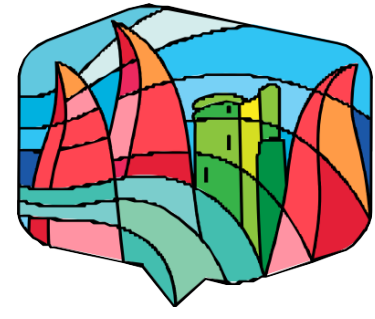


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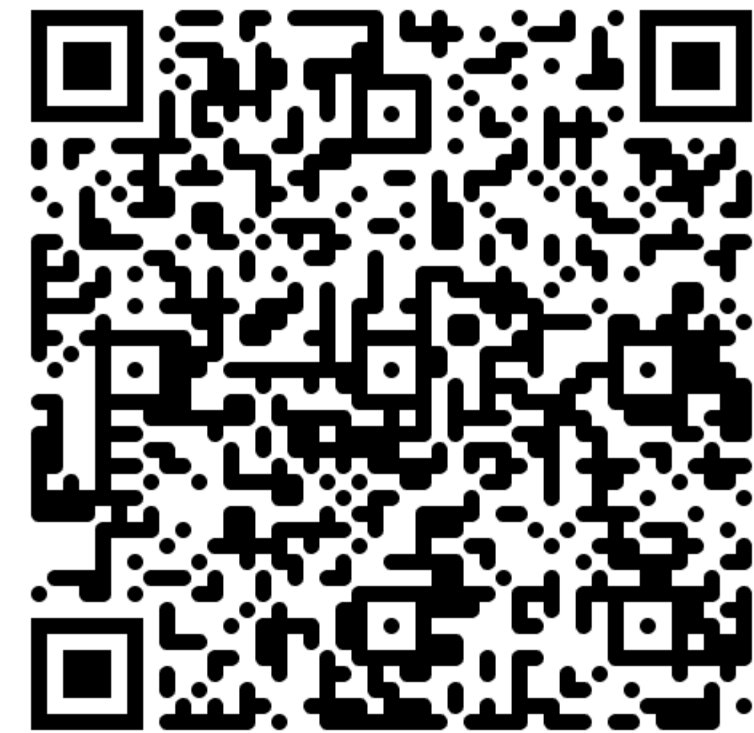
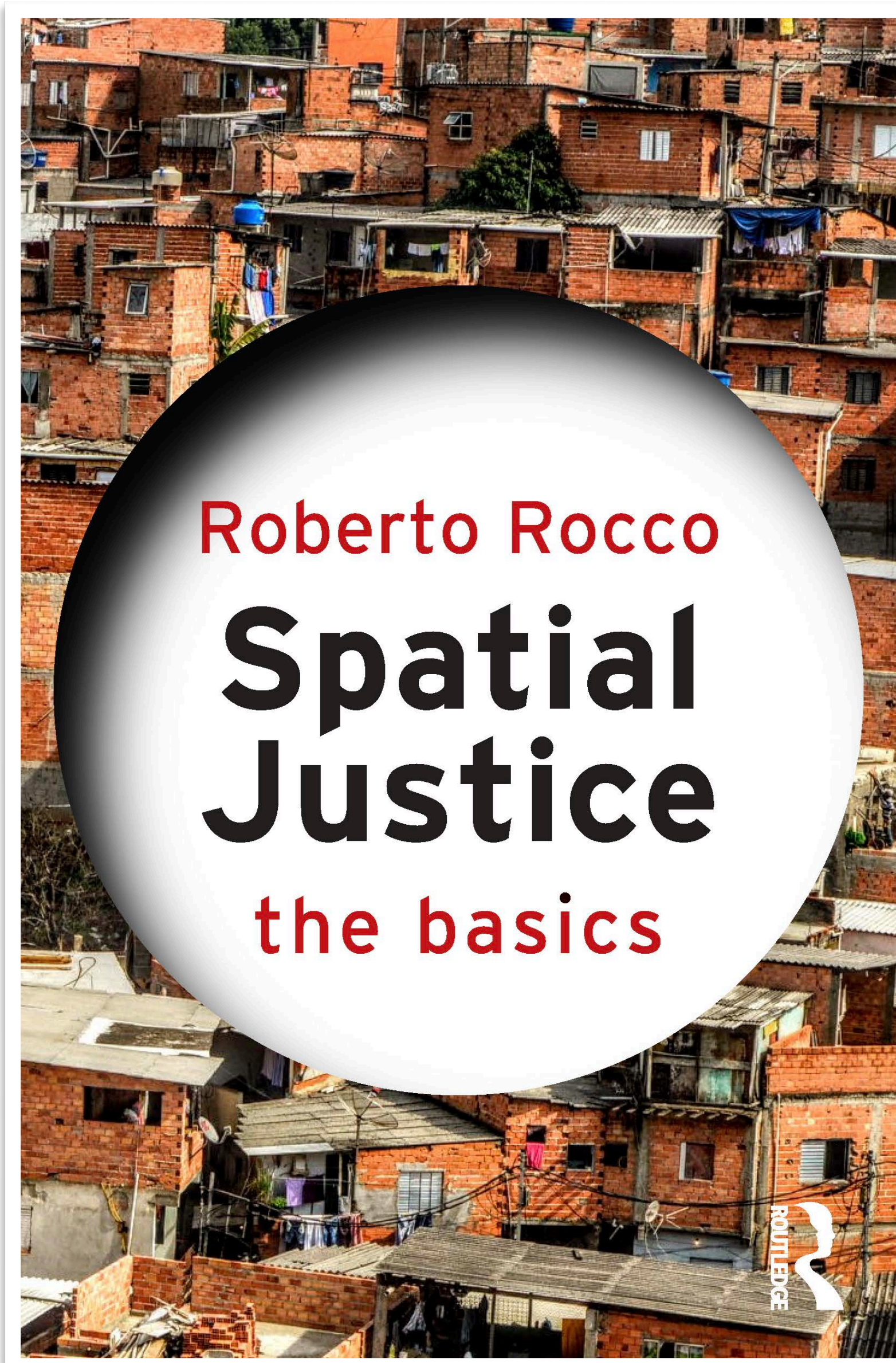


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BAKU, AZERBAIJAN | 17-22 MAY 2026



Spatial Justice Handbook



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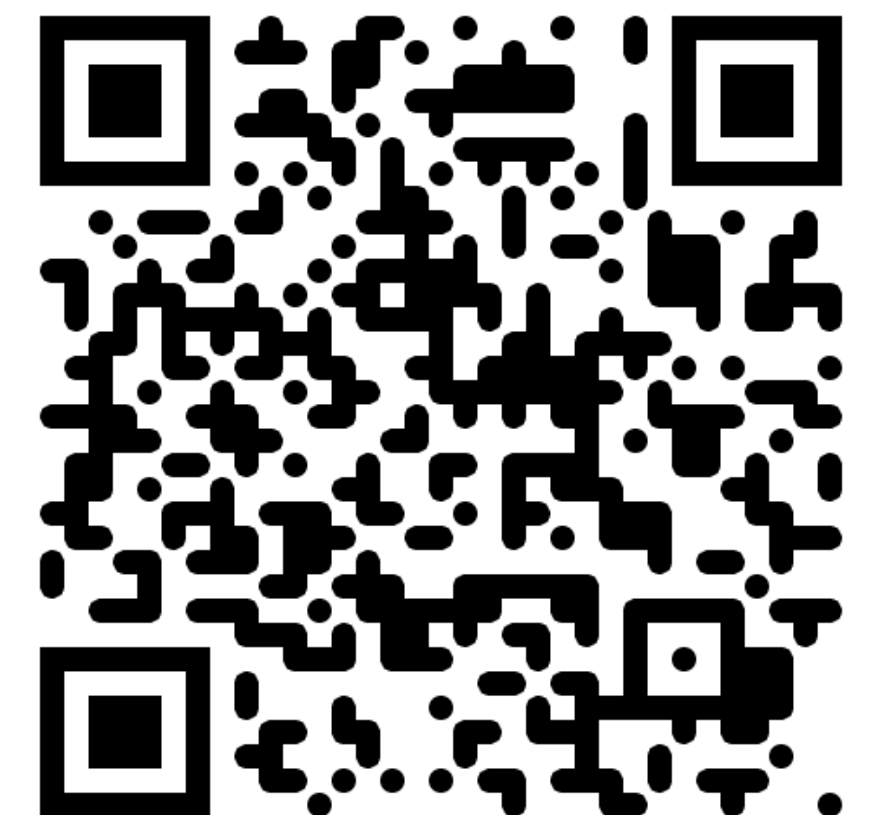
SPATIAL JUSTICE HANDBOOK

ROCCO, GONÇALVES & LOPEZ

UP2030

Comprehensive guide for applying Spatial Justice in urban research and planning practice.

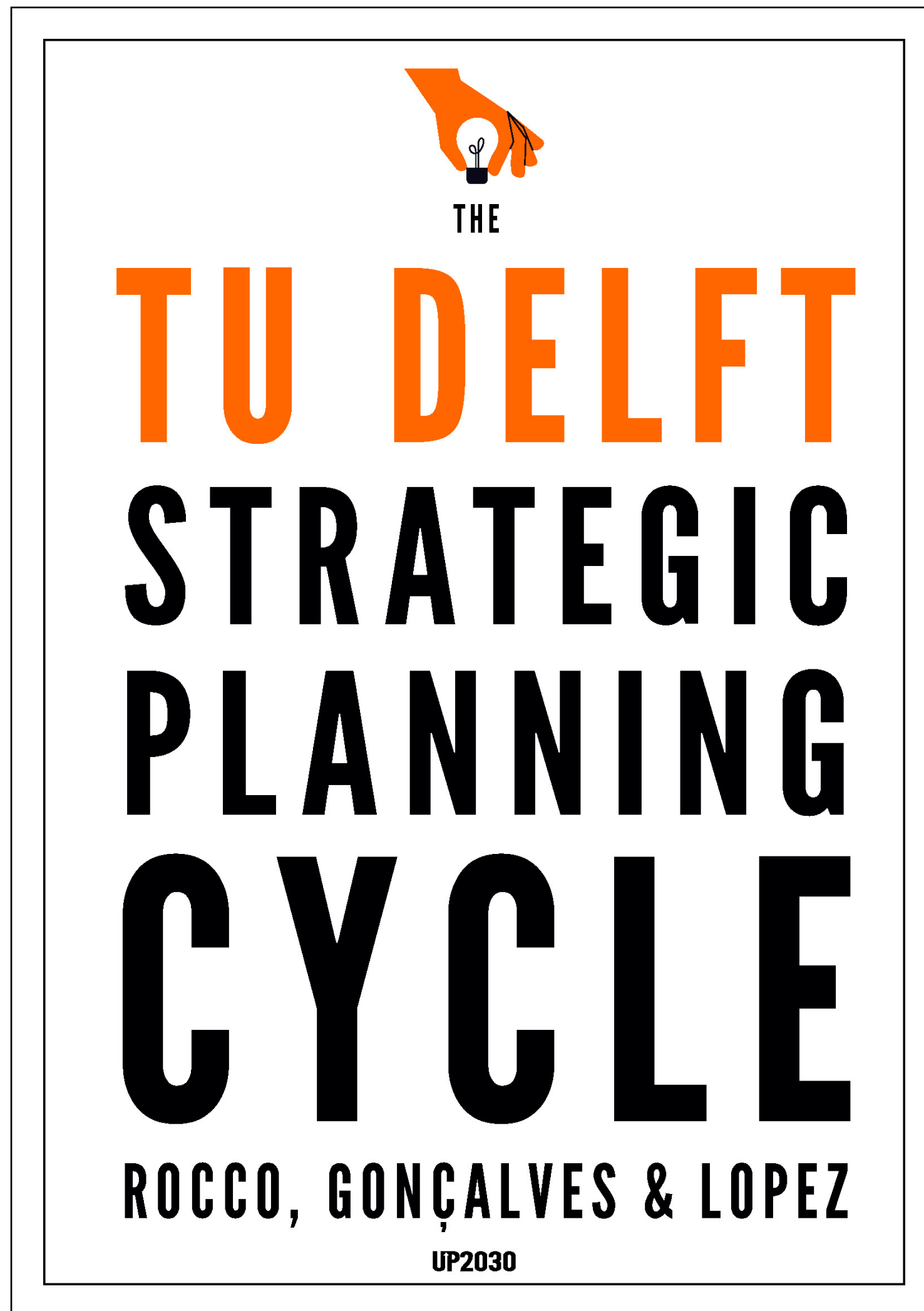
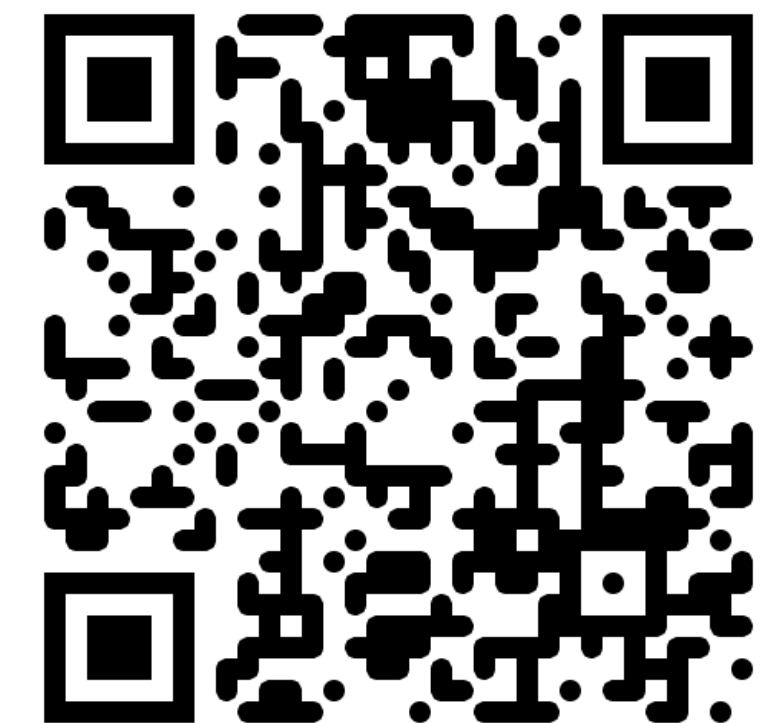
Rocco, R., Gonçalves, J. E., & Lopez, H. (2024). The Spatial Justice Handbook. TU Delft. https://ufmsecretariat.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/UfM_Strategic_Urban_Development_Action_Plan_2040.pdf



UP2030 Strategic Planning Cycle

Outlines the strategic planning phases to integrate Spatial Justice and tools in UP2030.

Rocco, R., Gonçalves, J., & Lopez, H. (2024). The TU Delft Spatial Planning Cycle. TU Delft OPEN. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.12654288>



Our position paper on Spatial Justice

A short Introduction to Spatial Justice



Now, let's sign our Manifesto!





Thank you

Questions? Answers?

Please write to justcitycentre-bk@tudelft.nl

Or visit <https://just-city.org/>

